

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: September 8, 1948

FROM : SAC, Birmingham

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECT;
HARRY KERRINE - INFORMANT;
ILLEGAL WEARING OF UNIFORM.

ATTENTION FBI LABORATORY
REGISTERED MAIL

85167

On June 23, 1948 DAVID DALLAS TAYLOR was arrested for violation of his probation, having previously received a sentence of two years in State Court, Walker County, Jasper, Alabama for Grand Larceny. While in Walker County Jail, TAYLOR and another prisoner escaped after hitting the jailer on the head. The jailer subsequently died. Both escapees were captured and at the time of TAYLOR's trial, the defense presented TAYLOR's discharge papers in evidence of his good character and military record.

The original Army discharge is believed altered to reflect that TAYLOR served in three major battles and that he received a good conduct medal. A certified photostatic copy of TAYLOR's Army discharge as recorded in Provost Marshal's Office, Jefferson County, Birmingham, Alabama, failed to reflect this information. It is also noted that there are several other alterations and insertions by typewriter and that on the photostatic copy of the original discharge it is indicated that soldier lost 187 days under Article of War 107.

It is the opinion of the District Judge and prosecuting attorney for the State that either TAYLOR or his brother made or caused the alterations and forgeries on these papers in an effort to show a good service record for subject and possibly influence the jury.

There is enclosed herewith the following papers:

1. Original personnel discharge, United States Army.
2. Certified photostatic copy of Army discharge.
3. Certificate of discharge, United States Naval Service, Naval Reserve, issued June 26, 1948, San Mateo, California.
4. Certificate of discharge, United States Naval Service, Naval Reserve, issued June 26, 1948, Pensacola, Florida.
5. Certificate in lieu of discharge, United States Coast Guard Reserve, issued July 24, 1948, Washington, D. C.

It is requested that documents one and two be compared to determine what alterations or forgeries may have been made. It is also requested that examination be made to determine the typewriter used to effect each alteration and forgery.

Documents three, four, and five are being submitted for information and to determine what alterations or forgeries may have been made. It is requested that these documents be returned to the Bureau as soon as possible in order that they may be compared to the original.

Very truly yours,
Special Agent in Charge

RECORDED: 1

INDEXED: 1

Screened by NARA (RD-F)
01-14-2020 FOIA # 63708 (URTS
16596) DOCID: 70109971

Declassification authority derived from FBI
Automatic Declassification Guide, issued May
24, 2007

A comparison of the original Honorable Discharge Certificate, #1, with specimen #2, resulted in the conclusion that #2 is a photostatic copy of #1 even before numerous alterations were made to the original discharge certificate. In each instance where a change was made to the original certificate as determined from a comparison with #2, a corresponding change was noted on #1. The amount typewriting on #1 could not be made legible since the lines of the paper have been deeply disturbed and in some instances additional typewriting has been placed over the original.

The typewriting on Q1 placed thereon prior to the alterations conforms to the Laboratory's standards for Royal Elite type spaced twelve letters to an inch. The typewriting on Q2 placed thereon after the photographic copy, Ref. was prepared conforms more closely to the Laboratory's standards for Neolight Elite type, spaced twelve letters to an inch.

Several erasures were noted where the date 11/14/45 was apparent on specimen #2. However, the original date could not be determined since the erasures have been so extensive that the date is illegible.

The date of birth has been changed on specimen (3) from "December 15, 1945" to "December 1, 1945". Other creases were noted on specimen (3) but were apparently due to errors in typing.

It is noted that a Page One under appears on specimens Q2, Q3, and Q4, and it is possible that photostatic copies of these verifications can be obtained from the same source as Specimen Q1, which may have the original writing on the specific documents prior to any changes which may have been made.

Specimens of Group 1 and 2 are returned beneath. The appropriate names are written in the Laboratory File.

REPORT
of the

FBI

LABORATORY

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C.

September 23, 1944

To:

Sgt. Birmingham

There follows the report of the FBI Laboratory on the examination of
the evidence received from your office on September 23, 1944.

Re:

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS
WALLY HARRIS - FUGITIVE
MILWAUKEE BRANCH OF UNION

YOUR FILE NO.

FILE NO.

LAB. NO.

RECORDED - 20

13-100

15-100-1
1-200-10

Examination requested by:

Birmingham

Reference:

Letter dated September 2, 1943

Examination requested:

Downward

Specimens:

- Q1 Original Honorable Discharge Certificate from the Army of the United States for DAVID RALPH TAYLOR SA 14 221 155 capt. at Fort McChesney, Alabama on July 21, 1943.
- Q2 Certificate of Discharge from the United States Naval Service for DAVID RALPH TAYLOR at U. S. Naval Hospital, Chesapeake, California on July 21, 1943.
- Q3 Certificate of Discharge from the United States Naval Service for DAVID RALPH TAYLOR at U. S. Naval Hospital, Chesapeake, California on July 21, 1943.
- Q4 Certificate in Lieu of Discharge from the U. S. Coast Guard for DAVID RALPH TAYLOR issued July 21, 1943, Washington, D. C.
- Q5 Photostatic copy of Honorable Discharge Certificate from the Army of the United States for DAVID RALPH TAYLOR SA 14 221 155 Private at Fort McChesney, Alabama on February 21, 1943.



LA 43-478

- 1 -

THE BUREAU DIVISION:

At Montgomery, Alabama:

Will interview DAVID DAILEY TAYLOR and question him regarding alterations appearing on his original discharge papers as presented in evidence at the time of his trial, July 30, 1948 at Jasper, Alabama. It should be borne in mind that TAYLOR's brother may have been the person who made said alterations.

THE MEMPHIS DIVISION:

At Jasper, Alabama:

Will after interview has been had with TAYLOR consider interviewing his brother, "RED" TAYLOR, for information concerning the alterations of DAVID TAYLOR's discharge papers.

Will consider interviewing defense attorney called at Jasper in this connection.

At Selma, Alabama:

Will, if deemed advisable, attempt to obtain typewriting specimens from the typewriter of Attorney JOHN A. TOSST.

BA 42-430

months, four days, Continental service, and two years, three months, six days, foreign service, indicating dates of departure and destination and dates of arrival on the United States. The photostatic copy reflects only the months, four days Continental service, with no other foreign service listed.

Under section 33, "Prison service", original discharge reflects "none, other than to be US Army Officer". Section 42 reflects completed three months auto mechanic's training, also 6 weeks. On the photostatic copy the word "none" is written in each of these sections. Under section 33 there appears to be an erasure on the original discharge and on the photostatic copy there appears the following, "157 days lost under A.S. 107".

The following is a description of TAYLOR as obtained from the discharge:

Name	DAVID DAVID TAYLOR
Army Serial Number	BA 14 221 465
Date of birth	June 3, 1928, William County, Alaska.
Eyes	Blue
Hair	Brown
Height	5' 10"
Weight	142 pounds
Race	White
Sex	Male
Marital Status	Married
Occupation	Farmer

BA 43-450

The above-mentioned papers were forwarded to the FBI Laboratory on September 4, 1948 for comparison to determine alterations or forgeries which may have been made and also to determine the typewriter used to effect such alterations and forgeries.

The Laboratory advised that a comparison of the original discharge certificate, 4-1, with specimen 40-1, the photostatic copy of the honorable discharge certificate, resulted in the conclusion that 40-1, as a photostatic copy of 4-1 made before numerous alterations were made on the original discharge certificate. In each instance where a change was made on the original certificate as determined from a comparison with 40-1 a corresponding alteration was noted on 4-1. The erased typewriting on 4-1 was not legible, however, since the fibers of the paper were deeply disturbed.

They advised that the typewriting on 4-1 dated thereon prior to alteration conforms to Laboratory standards for Royal White type spaced twelve letters to the inch. The typewriting on 4-1 placed thereon after the photostatic copy, 40-1, was prepared, conforms most closely to the Laboratory standards for Remington White type, spaced twelve letters to an inch.

They advised that several erasures were noted where the date "1944" appears on specimen 4-1, certificate of discharge from the United States Naval Service dated June 20, 1940, Bremerton, California, however, the original dates could not be determined since the erasures have been written over with heavy ink.

The date of birth has been changed on specimen 4-1, certificate of discharge from the United States Naval Service dated Pensacola, Florida, June 20, 1940, showing a date of birth changed from December 15, 1920 to December 15, 1921.

The word "December" on specimen 4-1, certificate of discharge from the United States Naval Service dated Pensacola, Florida, June 20, 1940, has been partially erased and is illegible.

It is to be noted that on the original discharge under the word "grade" is indicated the letters "COPI" indicating soldier's rank as Corporal whereas under the photostatic copy his rank is indicated as Private. Under section 30, "Battles and Campaigns", the original discharge reflects some major battles, campaigns, awards and good conduct medal. On the photostatic the word "none" is written in for this section. Under Section 34, "Honors received in action" is reflected one 1st class, 1st degree. Under "years of service and service outside Continental United States" the original discharge reflects four years, one

The writer subsequently contacted Circuit Judge RAY MAHALL who confirmed the information furnished by Mr. WARD. Judge MAHALL was available to the writer the original honorable discharge of JAMES DALLAS TAYLOR as well as a certified photostatic copy of his discharge. He also made available original certificate of discharge from the United States Naval Service, one dated September 4, 1943 and the other dated May 26, 1944 and certificate in lieu of discharge from the United States Coast Guard Reserves dated July 24, 1946. Judge MAHALL stated that TAYLOR was on trial for second degree murder of the former night jailer, Walker County, and had received a twenty year sentence and was presently serving time for violation of probation on a previous grand larceny charge and as incarcerated at Silby Prison.

Judge MAHALL stated it was apparent at the time of the trial that TAYLOR's discharge papers were being presented as evidence to show his good character and military service and that during the trial the defense attorneys had brought in photostatic copy of the discharge paper and a comparison of the original with the photostatic copy reflected numerous alterations and changes.

These papers were turned over to writer by Judge MAHALL for accuracy comparison with the request that they be returned to him after they had served their purposes.

ARTHUR L. BLANCH, Attorney at Law, and County Solicitor, Walker County, Georgia, advised that he had been present at the time of the trial of JAMES DALLAS TAYLOR although he had nothing to do with the prosecution or defense of the case. He reiterated information furnished by Judge MAHALL stating that it was evident that the attorneys for the defense presented these papers in an effort to influence the jury as to this boy's good character and military service. The original discharge reflected that TAYLOR had served in three major battles, and had received a good conduct medal. He stated, however, that the photostatic copy of this discharge paper failed to reflect that he had extremely good in any battles or campaigns.

He stated that he had heard through other attorneys that it was the general belief that TAYLOR's brother, generally known as "BIM" TAYLOR, may have been the person who had had these alterations made. It was Mr. BLANCH's opinion that two of the defense attorneys for TAYLOR had advised against the use of the discharge papers, however, a third defense attorney, Mr. JOHN PUGH, had insisted that they be used and that he was the attorney who introduced them as evidence. TAYLOR is also reported to have said the state went to one of the defense attorneys and Mr. PUGH had been in violation that was going to check the brother BLANCH although it was never brought out at the time of the trial and was referred to.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **BIRMINGHAM**

FILE NO. **43-11344**

REPORT MADE AT BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA	DATE WHEN MADE 11/12/48	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 8/24, 9/4, 11/1, 1948	REPORT MADE BY SA [illegible]
TITLE UNKNOWN SUBJECT; BRIEF LOOKING - EXTORTION			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY OF THE UNITED STATES
<p>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: DAVID [illegible] while on trial for murder, Walker County, Jasper, Alabama, through his attorneys, had his discharge papers presented as evidence of his good character and military record. Said papers appeared to have creases or forgeries thereon. FBI Laboratory report reflects numerous alterations and creases in original discharge papers.</p>			
<p>REFERENCE: Bureau file 43-11344.</p>			
<p>DETAILS: This investigation is predicated upon receipt of information from Mr. [illegible], Veterans Administrator, Jasper, Alabama, who advised at his attention that one MARTIN DALLAS MILLER, who was sentenced in State Court, Jasper, Alabama, July 30, 1948 to twenty years for second degree murder, had, through his attorneys, at the time of the trial, presented discharge papers from the United States Army indicating that he received a good conduct medal and participated in three major battles. He stated that his attorneys had obtained a certified copy of the original discharge papers from the War Relocation Authority, Birmingham, Alabama and that it had been noted that said information copy failed to reflect the information above mentioned and that it also indicated that subject had been in the United States Army. This information was obtained from the [illegible] [illegible] indicating no time lost. Mr. [illegible] stated that there were also [illegible] that there were other creases and alterations appearing on the original discharge.</p>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED [Signature]		SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE [Signature]	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 3 - Bureau 1 - [illegible] 2 - [illegible] 1 - [illegible]		DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES 43-11344-1 NOV 15 1948	

ME 43-35

LEADS

BIRMINGHAM DIVISION

AT RUFERS, ALABAMA.

Will interview Mr. and Mrs. HERBERT LOCKHART, sister and brother-in-law of DAVID DALLAS TAYLOR, Route 1, in whose possession TAYLOR states he left his discharge papers, to determine if they altered or assisted in the altering of these papers. If they deny being implicated in the matter, will determine who obtained TAYLOR'S discharge papers from the suit case, which TAYLOR left in their possession.

AT HALEYVILLE, ALABAMA.

Will interview JOHN POSEY, attorney employed by TAYLOR'S parents to represent him at his murder trial, to determine what knowledge he had of the alterations of TAYLOR'S original discharge papers. It is noted that TAYLOR had advised that he told POSEY prior to the trial what his exact service record had been, therefore, it would seem to indicate that POSEY had knowledge of the alterations in view of the fact that he attempted to enter the altered papers as evidence of TAYLOR'S good service record, although he had been told previously what TAYLOR'S exact service record had been.

AT JASPER, ALABAMA.

Will interview appropriate officials of the Veteran's Schooling Department, located in the basement of Walker County Court House, to determine if and when TAYLOR made his discharge papers available to that department and to determine the condition of these papers at that time.

MD 43-35

jail to see him. He stated he also told POSEY what his exact service record was and that during their conversation no mention was made of altering these discharge papers to indicate a better service record. TAYLOR continued that he did not have any idea that the discharge papers were to be used at the trial until POSEY tried to introduce them into evidence at the trial. He stated that until he heard all the controversy over these papers at the trial, he had no idea that they had been altered.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

ED 43-35

He said he was reluctant to leave any of his possessions in this room, therefore, he carried all of his possessions with him in his suit case wherever he went.

TAYLOR continued that after he was arrested he asked his brother-in-law, ROBERT LOCKHART, to take his car, containing the suit case, to his home and keep it for him. He further advised that he is sure his suit case remained at his brother-in-law's house at least until after his trial on July 30, 1948, because when he asked his mother, Mrs. DALLAS TAYLOR to bring his guns clean clothes, she had to go to LOCKHART'S house to get the clothes out of the suit case.

TAYLOR stated that he knows the discharge papers had not been altered at the time of his arrest because in January or February, 1948, he had to take the papers to the Veteran's Schooling Department, which is located in the basement of the Walker County Court House in Jasper in order to qualify for veteran's benefits under the Farm Training Program. He stated that the papers were kept by the Veteran's Schooling officials for over a month and as soon as they were returned to him, he placed them in his suit case where they remained until he was arrested. TAYLOR advised that the following relatives visited him while he was incarcerated but that he did not mention the discharge papers to any of them:

His father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. DALLAS TAYLOR, Star Route, Manchester, Alabama;

His brother, WILLIAMS "RED" TAYLOR, Star Route, Manchester, Alabama;

His brother, HES TAYLOR, Star Route, Manchester, Alabama;

His brother, J. T. TAYLOR, who resides with his parents;

His sister, Mrs. HENRIETTA TAYLOR, Route 1, Manchester, Alabama.

TAYLOR advised that the State appointed two attorneys to represent him, namely, — SHIVERS and another, whose name he does not know. He said they came to see him approximately two weeks before the trial, at which time, among other things, he told them what his actual service record was. It is noted that TAYLOR'S description of his actual service record is as it appears in referenced report of SA PERLER. He advised that nothing was said by either attorney about changing the original discharge papers. TAYLOR also advised that about two or three days before his trial, — FOGEL, a Hialeahville, Alabama, attorney, who had been employed by his parents to represent him, came to the

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **BIRMINGHAM**

FILE NO. **43-35 552**

REPORT MADE AT Mobile	DATE WHEN MADE 1/12/49	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 12/21/48	REPORT MADE BY SPENCER H. REES
TITLE UNKNOWN SUBJECT; RECENT BREKING - INFORMANT			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY OF THE UNIFORM
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: DAVID DALLAS TAYLOR, Draper Prison, Spauldine, Alabama, disclosing any knowledge as to who made alterations and erasures on original discharge papers. <p style="text-align: center;">- RIF -</p>			
REFERENCE: 43-1534. Report SA DUNLEY F. PEXER, 11/12/48, Birmingham.			
DETAILS: AT SPOULDER, ALABAMA. <p>DAVID DALLAS TAYLOR, inmate of Draper Prison, advised that he did not have any idea as to who made the erasures and alterations on his original discharge papers but stated that he does recall that there was quite a controversy over these papers at his trial. TAYLOR advised that he was arrested June 25, 1948 in Empire, Alabama, on a murder charge. He advised that on the date of his arrest, he had gone to a movie in Empire with his sister's son, JAMES LOCKHART. He mentioned that JAMES LOCKHART, who resided at House 15, Spauldine, Alabama, advised the officers who arrested him in order to point out to the officers where he and JAMES LOCKHART were at the time. TAYLOR said that he had driven to Empire in his 1941 Chevrolet and had a suit case containing his laundry as well as all of his personal papers, including the discharge papers, in the car at the time. He said he was positive that his discharge papers were in the suit case because he was working at the time in Jasper, Alabama, and rooming in a furnished room over the City Hall in Jasper.</p>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED <i>James H. [Signature]</i>		RECORDED - 100	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 3 - Bureau 1 - Birmingham (43-450)(1) UEA, Birmingham 2 - Mobile		350/11347-13 1-11-49 350/11347-13	

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 2 THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT BIRMINGHAM		FILE NO. 45-15670	
REPORT MADE AT BIRMINGHAM	DATE WHEN MADE 5-5-49	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 2-9, 26, 3-8, 23, 24, 4-14-49	REPORT MADE BY DETLEV P. PEEBLES
TITLE UNKNOWN SUBJECT; EDWARD HERRING - INFORMANT		CHARACTER OF CASE ILLEGAL WEARING OF UNIFORM	

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Investigation reflects discharge papers of DAVID WILLIS TAYLOR in possession of step-sister, Mrs. HERBERT LOGGART, Mobile, Ala. at time of his incarceration Mobile County Jail, Jasper, Ala. Papers removed by Mrs. LOGGART from TAYLOR's suitcase and turned over to his mother and brother WILLIS TAYLOR just prior to trial. Mrs. LOGGART claims discharge papers contained heavy typed entries different from other typing and indicated injuries received by DAVID TAYLOR while in the armed service. TAYLOR's mother and brother WILLIS also advised entries were thereon when received by them and turned over to attorneys. WILLIS TAYLOR denies making or having such entries typed on his brother's discharge. AUSA Birmingham declines prosecution.

04

REFERENCE: Bureau File 45-11544.
Report SA SPENCER H. ROHS, Mobile, Ala., 1-12-49.

DETAILS: MR. BORDEN HALLAS, Attorney, Jasper, Alabama, advised he and Attorney JUNIUS SKINNER were appointed by the court to represent DAVID TAYLOR who was to be tried for murder of the night jailer at Jasper, Alabama. HALLAS stated he had attempted to talk to DAVID TAYLOR on several occasions, advising him he had been appointed as his lawyer to represent him. He stated that TAYLOR who was under very high tension at the time, acted unbalanced as if he was mentally unbalanced and at the time grabbed a Bible and told him that that was his lawyer. He stated he

COPIES OF THIS REPORT 2 Bureau 1 Mr. Tolson 1 Mr. E. A. Tamm 1 Mr. Clegg 1 Mr. Glavin 1 Mr. Ladd 1 Mr. Nichols 1 Mr. Rosen 1 Mr. Tracy 1 Mr. Carson 1 Mr. Egan 1 Mr. Gurnea 1 Mr. Hendon 1 Mr. Pennington 1 Mr. Quinn 1 Mr. Nease 1 Mr. Gandy	COPY TO FILE 4 MAY 5 1949	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <div style="text-align: right;"> RECORDED - 91 INDEXED - 91 </div>
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EX 42-45C

questioned TAYLOR as to his military service but was unable to obtain very much information from him. He determined, however, that TAYLOR had been in the service and had apparently received discharges from various branches of the service. When questioned as to where his discharges were TAYLOR first told him that his mother had them, then stated he had turned them over to Mr. KELLY GREENING, Veterans' Administration and generally appeared not to know where they were. HALLAS stated that on or about July 21, 1946 or on the day that Mr. JOHN POSEY, Attorney, entered the case, subject's brother WILLIS TAYLOR appeared at his office and made the statement that he had hired another attorney and he had some information that was going to get DAVID in Bryce's Hospital.

HALLAS stated he did not know what WILLIS TAYLOR was referring to and further stated they had very little cooperation from him. At this time TAYLOR handed his brother's discharge papers to Mr. HALLAS and left the office. HALLAS stated that although he had not observed these papers too carefully at the time, he later noticed that there were discrepancies in the dates as to lengths of service and that there appeared to be several erasures and insertions. He also noticed under Section 3a Wounds received in action the words "One of side hip back nerves." He stated that although he should have noticed these insertions and misspelling that he had not paid too much attention to them; that his interest had been in determining what branches of the service TAYLOR had been in and whether or not he was honorably discharged. He stated also that he realized that in the service quite often errors were made and the information typed over other typing.

Mr. HALLAS stated that on the date of the trial he had pointed out these discrepancies to Attorney POSEY and had advised against using them in evidence. However, Mr. POSEY who had been hired by TAYLOR and his mother decided against this and did submit them in evidence.

Mrs. KERRIE LACHRY, WED, Rapier, Alabama, step-sister of DAVID TAYLOR, advised that when DAVID had gotten into trouble he had asked her husband to bring his car to their home and keep it. She stated he also had a suitcase containing clothing and other articles. Mrs. LACHRY stated she had not bothered his things until she received a letter from DAVID's mother asking her to look in the suitcase and see if his discharge papers were there and whether or not they showed that he received injuries in the service. She stated she checked these papers and noted under Wounds received in action the words "One of side hip and back nerves." She stated she also noticed that on this discharge there was heavy typing in some places and lighter typing in others. At this time Mrs. LACHRY was shown the discharge paper of DAVID TAYLOR and after looking at it she stated it was just the way she had taken it out of the suitcase. Mrs. LACHRY made

BH 43-480

the statement that she did not think that DAVID was just right. When questioned about this she stated that she made this statement from the way he had acted just before this happened, stating that he did not seem to be himself.

Mrs. DAVID SEORT TAYLOR, Star Route, Manchester, Alabama, advised she is the wife of DAVID DALLAS TAYLOR, having married him January 16, 1945. She stated he had just been discharged from the Coast Guard at the time of their marriage and stated he subsequently enlisted in the Army on June 11, 1946. While he was stationed at Camp Shelby, Miss. he was reported AWOL for approximately six months. She stated he had been in and out of the military service and that she had lived with her husband very little of the time since their marriage. She recalled that he had mentioned to her that he had been overseas in the South-Pacific and had been wounded in battle. She recalled that he had shown her a hip wound, stating that a bullet had struck him there. She also recalled that he had some ribbons and a good conduct medal. Mrs. TAYLOR stated that her husband at times acted very wild, was fractious and did not seem to be satisfied to stay long in one place.

Mrs. DALLAS TAYLOR, Star Route, Manchester, advised that when her son returned from military service he had either shown her the discharge papers or had read it aloud, at which time she recalled that it mentioned he had been wounded in service. She stated after he was incarcerated in the Walker County Jail her son WILLIS had consulted with his attorneys and they had requested DAVID's discharge papers. At that time she had gotten WILLIS to write to her daughter, MRS. HERBERT LOWERY to look for the papers and determine if it mentioned anything concerning his injuries in the service. She stated the papers were made available to Attorney HALLAS by WILLIS TAYLOR.

WILLIS TAYLOR, upon interview, furnished substantially the same information as his mother, stating he knew very little concerning his brother DAVID, but that he did know that he had been in the service several times and recalled him having read to the family his discharge papers which indicated his injury in the service. He admitted obtaining these papers and giving them to Attorney HALLAS. Both WILLIS and his mother as well as Mrs. LOWERY denied having anything to do with changing the typing on these papers or having it done.

Mr. ZELL HERRING, Veterans' Administration, Jasper, advised that DAVID DALLAS TAYLOR had applied for training under the General Farming Program and after making available his discharge papers had been accepted.

ME 43-450

for one year, six months and one day to begin March 1, 1948 to September 2, 1949. It was his opinion that veteran's discharge papers would have been in order at the time they were submitted inasmuch as they would be checked against the War Department records before he would be accepted for training.

Mr. JOHN POSEY, Attorney Haleyville, Alabama, advised he had never seen DAVID TAYLOR before the trial in this case. He recalled that WILLIS TAYLOR had employed him to represent his brother and that he had made a trip to Jasper to see him approximately one week before the trial. He recalled having talked to DAVID while he was incarcerated and questioned him concerning his military service. However, he did not recall just what DAVID had told him and it was his opinion that he had been unable to get very much information out of him concerning his military service. Mr. POSEY recalled that at the time of the trial before the discharge papers were entered as evidence someone had pointed out to him that there appeared to be alterations and changes on the discharge. He stated, however, it was also mentioned that it was possible that these could be typing errors made by military personnel. POSEY stated he asked DAVID at that time if he had made any changes on these papers stating he did not desire to enter them as evidence if he had. DAVID denied this, stating they were just the way he had received them. POSEY stated he also asked WILLIS TAYLOR the same question at this time and WILLIS told them they had not been altered to his knowledge. Mr. POSEY stated he then admitted the papers as evidence inasmuch as he desired to show TAYLOR's honorable discharge and the fact that he had been discharged. POSEY denied that WILLIS TAYLOR or anyone else had mentioned to him anything about changing the papers and stated he was sure that WILLIS TAYLOR had not been in his office at a time when he could have used his typewriter for such purposes. It was noted that Mr. POSEY's typewriter was a Remington Standard, whereas the Laboratory indicates that the typing on the discharge papers after admission to the uniform and closely to the Laboratory standards for Remington elite type.

The facts in instant case were discussed with Assistant U. S. Attorney E. MICE TAYLOR who stated that although there appeared to be a violation of the Illegal Wearing of the Uniform Act he would not entertain prosecution against DAVID TAYLOR even though a case could be proven inasmuch as TAYLOR is now serving 20 years for murder and 12 years in addition on larceny charges in the state of Alabama. He also stated he would not entertain prosecution against WILLIS TAYLOR in view of the fact he did not feel it was the type of case that could be successfully prosecuted.

C L O S E D

- 4 -

Enclosure
Retained
43-11344-5

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DATE 1-27-50

TO : R. T. HAREG
FROM : D. J. Parsons
SUBJECT: UNSUB, KELLY-
HEFRING - INFORMANT
INOU.

43-11344

There is attached the file which has been maintained in the Laboratory in connection with the above captioned matter. It is desired that this file be maintained as an enclosure behind the main file in the Records Section.

Attachment

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Nichols _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Harbo _____
Mohr _____
Tele. Room _____
Nease _____
Gandy _____

43-11344-5
NOT RECORDED
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